

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CCO-00 CIAE-00 OTPE-00 FCC-03

INR-10 NSAE-00 OC-06 RSC-01 COME-00 SS-20 L-03 H-03

NSC-07 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 DRC-01 /111 W

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R 192242Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3243

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OTTAWA 1149

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETEL, CA

SUBJECT: TELECOMMUNICATIONS: CABLE TV -- DELETION/ SUBSTITUTION
OF COMMERCIALS

REF: OTTAWA 1081

1. THREE BUFFALO STATIONS (WGR, WBEN AND WKBW) HAVE
FILED SUIT IN FEDERAL COURT OF CANADA AGAINST ROGERS
CABLE TV OF TORONTO RE DELETION OF COMMERCIALS ON
CABLE. ACTION BASED PRIMARILY ON COPYRIGHT AND TRADE-
MARK LAWS. OTTAWA ATTORNEY FOR BUFFALO STATIONS HAS
AGREED PROVIDE TCO APRIL 22 WITH COPIES OF SUITS
WHICH WE WILL FORWARD BY POUH TO STATE TD FOR BLACK.

2. ARTICLE IN TORONTO GLOBE AND MAIL FOR APRIL 19
SUMMARIZING SUIT COMMENTS: "IF THE STATIONS WIN, THEY
COULD DESTROY ONE OF THE MAIN WEAPONS DESIGNED TO
PROTECT THE CANADIAN TV SYSTEM."

3. COMMENT: ONE EFFECT OF FILING OF SUIT MAY BE TO
DELAY COMPLETION OF GOC POLICY REVIEW ON THIS MATTER
PROMISED IN LAST EXTAFF NOTE TO WASHINGTON. IN ANY
EVENT, TCO HAS OBTAINED IMPRESSION FROM APRIL 11
MEETING WITH HARVISON THAT REVIEW WAS PROCEEDING
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SLOWLY AND WAS NOT CONFINED SOLELY TO DELETION-SUB-

STITUTION ISSUE BUT WOULD BE COMPREHENSIVE UPDATING
OF ENTIRE 1971 POLICY STATEMENT ON CABLE TV OF WHICH
THIS WAS ONLY ONE ASPECT. SIMILAR IMPRESSION OBTAINED
BY OTTAWA ATTORNEY BUFFALO STATIONS WHO RECENTLY
DISCUSSED ISSUE WITH NIXON, ADMINISTRATOR, TELECOMMUNI-
CATIONS MANAGEMENT BUREAU, DEPT. OF COMMUNICATIONS,
AND ATTEMPTED DISCUSSION WITH SZLAZAK, DIRECTOR GENERAL,
INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS BRANCH, DEPT OF
COMMUNICATIONS. NIXON'S APPROACH HE DESCRIBED AS NON-
COMMITTAL BUT REASONABLE. ON OTHER HAND, SZLAZAK
REPORTEDLY DISMISSED HIS CONCERNS BY ABRUPTLY STATING
GOC HAD MORE IMPORTANT THINGS TO DO THAN LOOK AFTER
THE COMMERCIAL INTERESTS OF US TELEVISION STATIONS.
PORTER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ADVERTISING, POLICIES, LITIGATION, CABLE TELEVISION, TELEVISION BROADCASTING, LICENSES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974OTTAWA01149
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740092-0660
From: OTTAWA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740429/aaaaazrk.tel
Line Count: 75
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: OTTAWA 1081
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 APR 2002 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <22 JUL 2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TELECOMMUNICATIONS: CABLE TV -- DELETION/ SUBSTITUTION OF COMMERCIALS
TAGS: ETEL, CA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005